

David C. Wakefield, Esq. Bar #: 185736
Lightning Law, APC
10620 Treena Street, Suite 230
San Diego, CA 92131
Telephone: 619.485.4300; Facsimile: 619.342.7755
E-mail: dcw@DMWakeLaw.com; wakefieldlawassistant@gmail.com
Attorney for Plaintiffs

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

**UNITED AFRICAN-ASIAN
ABILITIES CLUB, ON BEHALF
OF ITSELF AND ITS
MEMBERS; ANNA MARIE
WIGGINS, An Individual, ON
BEHALF OF ROBERT AARON
MCKISSICK**

Plaintiffs,

v.

**LA ADOBE LIMITED
PARTNERSHIP, A
CALIFORNIA LIMITED
PARTNERSHIP; AND DOES 1
THROUGH 10, Inclusive**

Defendants.

Case No:

COMPLAINT

**DISCRIMINATORY
PRACTICES**

[US Fair Housing Act of 1988 [42
U.S.C. §§ 3600 et seq, §3604(c),
§3604(f)(1-3), et seq.; CA
Government Code 12925, 12927,
12955; CA Civil Code §§ 51, 52,
54.3

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

INTRODUCTION

1. Plaintiffs make the following allegations in this civil rights action:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. The federal jurisdiction of this action is based on the 42 U.S.C. §§ 3601,
3604 et. seq. - the U.S. Fair Housing Act Amendments of 1988 (Defendants'

apartment property consist of four (4) or more residential units), and 42 U.S.C. § 12101 et. seq., the federal Americans With Disabilities Act. Venue is proper in this United States District Court for the Central District of California pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), because a substantial part of Plaintiffs' claims arose within said Judicial District.

SUPPLEMENTAL JURISDICTION

3. This United States District Court for the Central District of California has supplemental jurisdiction over the California state claims as alleged in this Complaint pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a).

NAMED DEFENDANTS AND NAMED PLAINTIFFS

4. The term Plaintiffs as used herein specifically include the corporate Plaintiff entity known as the United African-Asian Abilities Club, On Behalf Of Itself And Its Members (hereinafter referred to as "Club" or "UAAAC"); and the individual Plaintiff Anna Marie Wiggins and Robert Aaron Mckissick (hereinafter referred to as "Wiggins" or the "named Individual Plaintiff". The Plaintiff Club and Plaintiff Wiggins are sometimes collectively referred to as the "named Plaintiffs" or "Plaintiffs".

5. Plaintiff United African-Asian Abilities Club (UAAAC) is registered and in good standing as a Nevada corporation. The named individual Plaintiff Wiggins is a member of the Plaintiff Club organization.

6. Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon allege that named Defendant LA ADOBE LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, A CALIFORNIA LIMITED PARTNERSHIP is the operator of the apartment rental business known as Villa Adobe Apartments located at 404 Shatto Place Los Angeles, CA 90020. Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon allege that Defendant LA ADOBE LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, A CALIFORNIA LIMITED PARTNERSHIP is the owner, operator, and/or lessor of

1 the real property located at 404 Shatto Place Los Angeles, CA 90020 (hereinafter
2 referred to as the “Property”).

3 7. Defendant LA ADOBE LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, A CALIFORNIA
4 LIMITED PARTNERSHIP is, and at all times mentioned herein were, a business or
5 corporation or franchise, organized and existing and/or doing business under the
6 laws of the State of California. Defendants Does 1 through 10, were at all times
7 relevant herein subsidiaries, employers, employees, and/or agents of the named
8 Defendants.

9 CONCISE SET OF FACTS

10 8. The named Individual Plaintiff Wiggins is the sister of Robert Aaron
11 McKissick who has cerebral palsy, uses a wheelchair for mobility, is unable to walk
12 any distance, and he also has severe speech and vision disabilities. McKissick is
13 totally dependent on Plaintiff Wiggins due to his disabilities. Plaintiff Wiggins and
14 McKissick are also members of the Plaintiff Club. The individual Plaintiff Wiggins
15 intended to go the Defendant’s Property to access Defendants’ rental services.
16 Plaintiff Wiggins has actual knowledge of the overt and obvious physical and
17 communication barriers at Defendants’ Property. Plaintiff Wiggins determined that
18 the open and obvious physical barriers that exist at Defendants’ Property directly
19 related to her brother’s disabilities, and that it would be impossible or extremely
20 difficult for them to physically access Defendants’ on-site rental services. See ¶¶ 25.
21 Plaintiff Wiggins had knowledge and determined that it would be futile gesture for
22 her to go to the Property. Plaintiff Wiggins had knowledge of access barriers at the
23 Property and determined that it would be futile gesture for her to go to the Property
24 on the date that she had intended. The named Individual Plaintiff Wiggins was
25 deterred by her actual knowledge of the physical and communication barriers that
26 exist at Defendants’ Property and also Defendants’ website communication barriers.
27
28

1 As used herein, website means any internet website where Defendants control the
2 content. Exhibit B states the websites controlled by Defendants. Plaintiff Wiggins
3 also attempted to access Defendants' rental services on Defendants websites but
4 experienced great difficulty due to Defendants' failure to provide accessible website
5 features.

6 9. The named Individual Plaintiff Wiggins attempted to use Defendants' website to
7 access Defendants' online rental services. The named Individual Plaintiff Wiggins
8 could not determine from Defendants' website content whether Defendants' rental
9 services at the property or off the property, and common areas at the property were
10 physically accessible to her with her brother McKissick. The named Individual
11 Plaintiff Wiggins requested that Plaintiff Club assist him to obtain information
12 regarding the physical accessibility of Defendants' rental services both at the
13 property and elsewhere. In response to the named Individual Plaintiff's request,
14 Plaintiff Club sent one of its members to Defendants' property where it offers rental
15 services. The named Individual Plaintiff Wiggins personally reviewed all the
16 information and photographs of Defendants' property. As a result, the named
17 Individual Plaintiff has actual knowledge of the overt and obvious physical and
18 communication barriers at Defendants' Property with respect to Defendants' rental
19 services. The named Individual Plaintiff Wiggins determined that the open and
20 obvious physical barriers that exist at Defendants' Property directly related to
21 McKissick's disabilities, and that it would be impossible or extremely difficult for
22 him to physically access Defendants' on-site rental services. See ¶¶ 25. The named
23 Individual Plaintiff Wiggins had actual knowledge and determined that it would be
24 futile gesture for her to go to the Property on the date that she had intended. The
25 named Individual Plaintiff Wiggins was deterred by her actual knowledge of the
26 physical and communication barriers that exist at Defendants' Property and website.
27
28

1 The named Individual Plaintiff made a written request to Defendants' for an
2 accommodation to have equal access to Defendants' rental services and to eliminate
3 the communication and physical barriers to Defendants' rental services, both online
4 and at the property. At the end of this action, the named Individual Plaintiff
5 Wiggins intends to return to Defendants' website and property location to obtain
6 rental information and verify that the communication and physical barriers to
7 Defendants' rental services are removed.

8 10. The named Plaintiff Club is an organization that advocates on the behalf of its
9 members with disabilities when their civil rights and liberties have been violated.
10 Plaintiff Club and Plaintiff Wiggins investigated Defendants' websites and apartment
11 Property in February, 2023. The named Plaintiffs investigated Defendants apartment
12 property and Defendants websites. Plaintiff Club member Sharon Riguer
13 investigated the Property on the Internet websites. Additional Plaintiff Club
14 members investigated Defendants websites and found that they did not provide equal
15 access. The results of the research from Club Member Sharon Riguer are contained
16 in the Exhibit B to this Complaint. Club members ascertained that Defendants'
17 rental services at Defendants Property were not physically accessible to Plaintiff
18 Wiggins by a Club member with a disability who went to Defendants' apartment
19 Property, and said Club member attempted to access Defendants' on-site rental
20 services.

21 11. Plaintiff Club diverted its time and resources from its normal purposes
22 because of Defendants' service, policy, program and physical barriers to Defendants
23 rental services at Defendants' websites and Property. Club personnel conducted
24 detailed Internet searches to determine if Defendants provide large print, deaf
25 interpreter, therapy animal, the required reasonable accommodation policy, and
26 required reasonable modification policy. Further, the Club retained contractors to
27
28

1 investigate said policies, to survey the property, to photograph the property, to
2 investigate when the Property was constructed, to investigate the Property ownership
3 and to have an access report prepared. Plaintiff Club also diverted staff to
4 investigate Defendants' Internet presence to determine compliance with the FHA and
5 ADA. Plaintiff Club also investigated Defendants' written rental materials such as
6 brochures, rental applications and leases. Moreover, Plaintiff Club made an oral
7 investigation to ascertain Defendants' companion animal, deaf interpreter and
8 reasonable accommodation and reasonable modification policies. Plaintiff Club also
9 caused a physical access consultant to be retained to survey Defendants' facility.
10 Plaintiff Club's findings regarding Defendants' rental services and facilities were
11 incorporated into an Access Report. The Access Report also details the known overt
12 and obvious physical access violations at the Property, but it is not intended as an
13 exhaustive list of existing violations. Due to these necessary activities to investigate,
14 Plaintiff Club's time and resources were diverted from its normal activity. Plaintiff
15 Club suffered injury and also suffered monetary damages due to the diversion of the
16 Club's resources from its normal purposes.

17
18 12. Plaintiffs allege that Defendants control, operate, and maintain web pages at
19 different apartment websites where Defendants offer its rental services.

20 Additionally, Defendants provide rental services at the Property.

21 13. Plaintiffs allege that Defendants' websites have a close nexus to Defendants' on-
22 site rental services because the websites refer to Defendants' rental services that are
23 offered at Defendants' property. Therefore, Plaintiffs allege that the websites are also
24 places of public accommodation. Defendants control the websites to the extent that
25 Defendants can change the website content to make modifications to comply with
26 the FHA and ADA. Therefore, Plaintiffs allege that Defendants can modify the

1 content of Defendants' websites to improve access for Plaintiffs and people with
2 disabilities.

3 14. In this case, the named Plaintiffs allege that the Defendants failed to provide a
4 TTY number or the text messaging system for Plaintiffs and other people that are
5 deaf or people with speech conditions. Plaintiff Club members have speech
6 disabilities. Moreover, Plaintiff Club alleges that the Defendants did not modify their
7 websites to eliminate non-readable text to allow the blind and people with low vision
8 to use the screen reader software to access the information on the website, yet they
9 also failed to use large print on their websites. See Exhibit B to this Complaint.
10 Plaintiffs assert that most popular screen reader programs are called Jobs Access
11 With Speech or "JAWS" and Apple's VoiceOver Software. Defendants actions
12 discriminate against Plaintiff Club, specifically Club members who have low vision
13 disabilities. Each of the Club members above cannot use the websites controlled by
14 the Defendants. Modifications to Defendants' websites will not fundamentally alter
15 the rental services provided and will also not cause an undue burden to Defendants,
16 because the cost is less than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000).

17 15. On February 02, 2023, and on a second subsequent date, Plaintiff Club
18 attempted to make a request to the Defendants for reasonable accommodation at the
19 property. On February 18, 2023, the named individual Plaintiff Wiggins and
20 Plaintiff Club emailed to the Defendants a written request for a reasonable
21 accommodation. In February, 2023, Plaintiff Wiggins and Plaintiff Club, mailed a
22 written request for a reasonable accommodation. Defendants failed to respond to
23 any of Plaintiffs requests for reasonable accommodation as of the date of the filing of
24 this Civil Complaint.

25 16. Plaintiffs are not able to access Defendants rental services due to existing
26 overt and obvious communication and physical barriers to access Defendants' rental
27
28

1 services both at its online website and at Defendants' property. Due to the overt and
2 obvious physical barriers as alleged herein below, which are required to be removed,
3 Plaintiffs requested that Defendants accommodate them to provide access to
4 Defendants' rental services.

5 17. The named Plaintiffs allege that an accommodation is also obvious when a
6 whole group of the protected persons requires it. For example, when the public
7 without disabilities are required to get up to a second level, the public would be very
8 disturbed if they were required to request steps to go up to second level. When the
9 accommodation is specific to a particular person with a disability, then that person
10 may be required to make a request, because the accommodation is not obvious.

11 18. Plaintiffs allege that they are not required to make a request for reasonable
12 accommodation and for auxiliary aids when the barriers to communication are overt
13 and obvious. However, in the present case, Plaintiffs did make such requests for
14 accommodation to eliminate overt and obvious barriers to its rental services
15 communications. Plaintiffs allege that providing effective contact information for
16 Defendants' rental services on the internet is an obvious accommodation. The
17 general public does not need to request a contact number from the Defendant
18 apartment owner or operator when they desire to rent a place. Defendants provide the
19 contact number on their website. Therefore, Plaintiffs allege that Defendants are
20 required to provide the obvious accommodation of effective communication for
21 people that are deaf or with speech impediment on their website without a request.
22 Defendants must make their rental services accessible without the need for a prior
23 request. Furthermore, Defendants have a duty to remove architectural barriers and
24 communication barriers to their rental services without request.

25 19. Plaintiffs allege that there is disparate treatment on the internet related to the
26 amenities being offered to people without disabilities and people with disabilities.
27
28

1 All the below facts and the facts stated elsewhere herein have a disparate impact on
 2 the disability community. The named Plaintiffs experienced and have knowledge of
 3 the below facts that the Plaintiffs ascertained from Defendants' websites. Defendant
 4 operates an apartment property. The property is located at 404 Shatto Pl, Los
 5 Angeles, CA 90020. The property was built in 1991 and has 5 stories with 284 units.
 6 The rent is approximately: \$1,795 - \$2,995. The internet provides a wealth of
 7 information regarding the property. The internet advertises that the property has
 8 amenities that include: Community Amenities: Laundry Facilities, Controlled
 9 Access, Property Manager on Site, Security System, Online Services, Car Charging
 10 Station, Elevator, Disposal Chutes, Fitness Center, Spa, Gated, Courtyard;
 11 Apartment Features: Air Conditioning, Heating, Smoke Free, Tub/Shower, Intercom;
 12 Parking Garage: Assigned Parking, Parking available at an additional fee; Lease
 13 Options 12. The property advertises on trulia.com, apartmentguide.com, zillow.com,
 14 apartmentfinder.com, rent.com, redfin.com, yelp.com. It is very important to know
 15 that on trulia.com, apartmentguide.com, zillow.com, apartmentfinder.com, rent.com,
 16 redfin.com there is the equal housing opportunity logo. The plaintiff alleges that
 17 there is disparate treatment on the internet related to the amenities being offered to
 18 people without disabilities and people with disabilities. For example, the tow signage
 19 was not installed. The accessible parking space had an access aisle, which was not
 20 van accessible. The aisle did not have the "no parking" included in the access aisle.
 21 The office had a high threshold. There was no International Symbol of Accessibility
 22 signage. The Internet does not state the accessible amenities at all. Also, the
 23 statement the "equal housing opportunity statement" is misleading. In fact, the
 24 property is not completely accessible. All the above facts and the facts stated herein
 25 have a disparate impact on the disability community.

26
 27 20. On Defendants' websites, they allow the public without deafness and without
 28

1 speech impairments to participate by providing them with a telephone number to
2 call. However, Plaintiff Club members that are deaf and or with speech impairments
3 are denied equal access to participate because the Defendants do not have any
4 effective communication.

5 21. Defendants provide websites for people without disabilities to benefit from the
6 rental services without going to the apartments to learn about the properties.
7 However, for people with disabilities that require the access to the facility, the
8 Defendants do not provide any information on the websites regarding if the rental
9 services on or off the site is accessible. Moreover, the Defendants provide the
10 telephone number for the public to call to inquire about the rental services without
11 providing any effective alternative communications for Plaintiffs and other people
12 that are deaf or have speech impairments.

13 22. For people without disabilities, the Defendants provide all of the information
14 on their websites. For Plaintiffs with disabilities, Defendants require them to travel to
15 the Property to determine if it is accessible, then require them to request the effective
16 communication, and then thereafter to request a reasonable accommodation to the
17 overt and obvious communication barrier. Therefore, Defendants require Plaintiffs
18 and other people with disabilities to suffer a separate benefit.

19 23. Additionally, the named Plaintiffs are alleging photograph discrimination
20 related to the physical access of each of the apartments within Exhibit B to this
21 complaint. The purpose of Defendants' internet photographs is to entice perspective
22 renters to apply online or to contact the Defendants to rent a place. Defendants'
23 internet photographs only entice people without mobility disabilities. Defendants'
24 internet photographs exclude any photographs of any accessible features that would
25 aid the Plaintiffs. For example, there is no photograph of accessible parking. There
26 are no photographs of the accessible route to the rental services at the property.
27
28

1 There are no photographs related to the access to get into and use the rental services.
2 There are no photographs related to the accessible route of the common area. There
3 are no photographs of the accessible units. In fact, all the photographs lead a person
4 with a mobility disability to believe that the apartments are not accessible, or that
5 they must have someone go to the properties to make sure it is accessible. However,
6 people without disabilities are not required to go to the Property to see if it is
7 accessible.

8 24. Defendants websites and Defendants' rental services are not integrated for
9 people with disabilities as required. Plaintiffs are required to request an
10 accommodation. People without disabilities can access the websites and the rental
11 services without any problem, but Plaintiffs and other people with disabilities are
12 required to request for separate rental services. People with mobility conditions are
13 not integrated when using the websites because they must go to the apartments to
14 determine if they are accessible, but people without disabilities need only access
15 Defendants' websites to determine they can use them. People that are blind and with
16 low vision disabilities must request help to read the website information because the
17 printed information is too small, but people without disabilities can access the
18 websites without asking for help. Plaintiffs and other people with deafness or people
19 with speech condition must ask for help calling the number on the websites, because
20 Defendants fail to provide a TTY number to contact, or Defendants fail to provide a
21 texting system. Defendants discriminated against the Plaintiffs.

22 25. Plaintiff Club member went to Defendant's apartment facilities at the Property
23 in February, 2023, and on a second subsequent date, to access the Leasing Office.
24 The Named Individual Plaintiff has actual knowledge of Defendants' overt and
25 obvious physical barriers, that relate to this Plaintiff's disabilities, to Defendants'
26 Property on-site Leasing Office that this Named Individual Plaintiff intended to visit
27
28

1 in February, 2023, and on a second subsequent date, but this Plaintiff was deterred
2 from accessing Defendant's Leasing Office located on the Property. Defendants
3 provide rental information, rental applications, and other rental services on-site at the
4 Property. Defendants' agents confirmed to the Plaintiffs that rental information,
5 rental applications, and other rental services were available on-site at the Property.
6 Defendants' Leasing Office at the Property is not accessible. Defendants' path of
7 travel from the sidewalk to the Leasing Office is not accessible since it has step
8 changes in level along the path. There are numerous step changes in level that must
9 be traversed to access the main entrance to the complex. The main entrance door
10 leading into the complex fails to have the required smooth and uninterrupted surface
11 at the bottom of the door. The main entrance door leading into the complex is not
12 accessible due to a significant step change in level at the main entrance door
13 threshold that is not beveled or ramped. Defendant's callbox is located too high to
14 be accessible. Defendants do not provide the required directional signage as to the
15 designated path of travel from the sidewalk to Defendant's Leasing Office.
16 Defendant's Leasing Office entrance is not accessible due to a significant step
17 change in level at the Leasing Office door threshold that is not beveled or ramped.
18 The Named Individual Plaintiff has mobility disabilities and these step changes in
19 level and the other stated issues cause the path of travel and the Leasing Office entry
20 to be not accessible. Defendants failed to provide any directional signage indicating
21 an alternate accessible path of travel to the Leasing Office. Defendants failed to
22 provide the required fully compliant van accessible disabled parking for the Leasing
23 Office. Defendants failed to provide a dimensionally compliant van accessible
24 disabled parking space and disabled parking access aisle, the required disabled
25 parking signage, including tow away signage, fine signage, ground markings, and
26 failed to locate said parking on a level surface and nearest the Leasing Office.
27
28

1 Defendants also failed to provide compliant tow away signage. The Named
2 Individual Plaintiff requires the use of a compliant van accessible disabled parking
3 space to safely exit and re-enter the vehicle. Defendants' failure to provide the
4 required compliant disabled parking, disabled parking access aisle, disabled parking
5 disability signage, access aisle, and disability ground markings, such that the Named
6 Individual Plaintiff is not able to safely park at Defendants' establishment since the
7 individual Plaintiff may be precluded from exiting or re-entering the vehicle if the
8 disabled parking and disabled parking signage is not present and others park
9 improperly. Additionally, Defendants failed to provide the required accessible path
10 of travel from the parking area to the Leasing Office since the existing path of travel
11 has step changes in level. Additionally, Defendants overt and obvious
12 communication barriers were also present at the Leasing Office in February, 2023,
13 and on a second subsequent date. Defendants failed to provide any method of text
14 communication with their Leasing Office and failed to publish any information as to
15 how to initiate text communication contact. The Named Individual Plaintiff had
16 actual knowledge of these barriers at Defendants' Property that Plaintiff intended to
17 visit, and the Named Individual Plaintiff was deterred from accessing Defendants'
18 Leasing Office at the Property again in February, 2023. See Property photos in
19 Exhibit B and Exhibit C.

20
21 26. Plaintiff Club and the named Individual Plaintiff desire to make sure that
22 Defendants' rental services at Defendants' property and Defendants' websites are
23 fully accessible to Plaintiff Club's members, the named Individual Plaintiff, and
24 other people with disabilities. Plaintiff Club, its Club members, and the named
25 Individual Plaintiff all have actual knowledge of Defendants' discriminatory
26 conditions, and they are currently deterred from attempting further access until the
27 barriers are removed. Plaintiff Club and the named Individual Plaintiff intend to
28

1 return to Defendants' Property and Defendants websites at the end of this action to
 2 obtain rental services, and to verify that the communication and architectural barriers
 3 are removed. The named Plaintiffs' intent to return is genuine. In this case, Plaintiff
 4 Club has numerous members residing near Defendants Property. Plaintiff Club's
 5 members have actual knowledge of the discriminatory conditions as alleged herein
 6 when the Plaintiff Club investigated the Property and the rental services and
 7 determined that the Club members would not be able to use the rental services due to
 8 the discriminatory conditions. Therefore, Plaintiff Club members were and are
 9 deterred from visiting the properties. Plaintiff Members were not required to
 10 actually visit the properties. See *Civil Rights Education & Enforcement Center v.*
 11 *Hospitality Properties Trust*, 867 F.3d 1093 (9th Cir. 2017). However, a member of
 12 Plaintiff Club did visit and attempt to access Defendants' rental services at
 13 Defendants' Property. Plaintiff Club and the individual Plaintiff have specific plans
 14 to visit at the conclusion of this case to obtain rental information and to verify the
 15 Defendants ceased its discriminatory conduct by removing communication and
 16 physical barriers to access to the rental services.
 17

18
 19 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION: DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES IN**
 20 **HOUSING ACCOMMODATIONS – FAIR HOUSING ACT CLAIMS**

21 27. FHA Standing:

22 Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere herein this
 23 complaint, Defendants discriminated against Plaintiffs in violation of FHA sections §
 24 3604(f)(1- 3) and 42 § 3604(c), as further detailed below. As a result, the present
 25 named Plaintiffs suffered injury as a result of Defendants discriminatory actions, and
 26 named Plaintiffs now pray for damages, injunctive relief, declaratory relief, and
 27 other relief as hereinafter stated. The Federal Fair Housing Act applies to
 28

1 Defendants' apartment complex since it has more than 4 residential units. FHA
2 standing is substantially broader than standing under the ADA due to the critically
3 important need of adequate availability of housing for the disabled. A potential
4 plaintiff is not even required to have an interest in renting a particular property or
5 dwelling to have standing. *Smith v. Pacific Properties and Development Corp*, 358
6 F.3d 1097, 1099 (9th Cir 2004) [Testers have standing to bring Fair Housing Act
7 claims, *Id* 1099, 1104]. Under the Act, any person harmed by discrimination,
8 whether or not the target of the discrimination, can sue to recover for his or her own
9 injury. *See Trafficante v. Metropolitan Life Ins. Co.*, 409 U.S. 205, 212, 93 S.Ct. 364,
10 34 L.Ed.2d 415 (1972). "This is true, for example, even where no housing has
11 actually been denied to persons protected under the Act." *San Pedro Hotel v City of*
12 *Los Angeles*, 159 F.3d 470, 474-475 (9th Cir 1998). In the present case, the named
13 Plaintiffs alleged they suffered the injury of discriminatory conduct by Defendants,
14 and that the named Plaintiffs suffered monetary and other damages as a result. The
15 named Plaintiffs seek injunctive relief as well as damages, both of which are
16 available under 42 USC § 3613(c). Assuming *arguendo* in the present case, that
17 prospective injunctive relief was not available to Plaintiffs due to mootness or
18 otherwise, which Plaintiffs dispute; the named Plaintiffs are still permitted to recover
19 damages under their federal FHA claims. *Harris v Itzakhi*, 183 F.3d 1043, 1050 (9th
20 Cir 1999) [During the appeal in *Harris* case, the plaintiff therein moved Three
21 Thousand (3000) miles away and her injunctive claims became moot. However,
22 Plaintiff's claim for damages survived and was not affected]. In the present case,
23 while Plaintiffs can satisfy the injunctive relief prudential standing requirements, the
24 above Ninth Circuit *Harris* court authority makes it clear that those prudential
25 standing requirements for injunctive relief are not applicable to Plaintiffs FHA
26 damage claims. Hence, in the present case, Plaintiffs damage claims survive even if
27 prospective injunctive relief is not available. The present Plaintiff Club has
28

1 organization standing separately on its own under the FHA. Additionally, under the
 2 FHA, Plaintiff Club has associational standing to assert its Club member claims
 3 since it only seeks injunctive and declaratory relief as to its Club members. Plaintiff
 4 Club and the named Individual Plaintiff have standing with respect to the following
 5 FHA claims.

6
 7 CLAIM I: Discrimination In Violation of 42 § 3604(f)(1) - Failure To Have A
 8 Policy For Receiving Prospective Tenant Accommodation Requests, Failure To
 9 Train Staff, And Failure To Make The Policy Known To The Plaintiffs

10 28. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere herein this
 11 complaint, the named Plaintiffs suffered discrimination by Defendants in violation of
 12 this FHA section. This FHA statute states it is unlawful to discriminate in the sale or
 13 rental, or to otherwise make unavailable or deny, a dwelling to any buyer or renter
 14 because of a handicap of (A) that buyer or renter; (B) a person residing in or
 15 intending to reside in that dwelling after it is so sold, rented, or made available; or...
 16 §3604(f)(1) [emphasis added]. See *Texas Dept. of Housing and Community Affairs*
 17 *v Inclusive Communities Project*, 135 S.Ct. 2507, 2519 (2015) [FHA statutory
 18 scheme permits disparate impact claims, and those type of claims do not require
 19 intent]. due to Defendants' communication and architectural barriers, Defendants
 20 discriminated against Plaintiffs by failing to have a policy, practice, or method for
 21 Plaintiffs to make a reasonable accommodation request for equal access to their
 22 rental services on their website or at the Property. Defendants have an affirmative
 23 duty to have a policy, process to receive such accommodation requests and to
 24 respond to said requests. See *Giebler v. M & B Associates*, 343 F.3d 1143 (9th Cir.
 25 2003). As a result, Defendant caused Plaintiffs to suffer disparate impact
 26 discrimination.
 27
 28

CLAIM II: Failure to Engage in Interactive Process In Violation Of The Fair Housing Act And California Fair Employment And Housing Act

29. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere herein this complaint, Plaintiffs suffered discrimination by Defendants in violation of FHA section § 3604(f)(1) and § 3604(f)(2). Plaintiffs contend that Defendant failed to engage in a good-faith interactive process to determine and to implement effective reasonable accommodations so that Plaintiffs could gain equal access Defendants' rental services, to apply for a lease, or to allow Plaintiffs to access Defendants' rental services and apartments.

CLAIM III: Discrimination In Violation of 42 § 3604(f)(2)

30. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere herein this complaint, the named Plaintiffs suffered discrimination by Defendants in violation of this FHA section § 3604(f)(2). This FHA section states "it shall be unlawful to discriminate against any person in the terms, conditions, or privileges of sale or rental of a dwelling, or in the provision of services or facilities in connection with such dwelling". Plaintiffs more specific factual basis for this claim is set forth above at ¶¶ 23-26 above. As previously stated, the named Individual Plaintiff was a prospective renter and Plaintiff Club was also seeking rental housing on behalf of the named Individual Plaintiff ¶¶ 8 – 26 above. In the instant case, Defendant's rental services located on the Property are "services" in connection with the rental of a dwelling and the on-site rental services provided at the property fall within the FHA statute. In the instant case, the named Plaintiffs both assert that Defendant's failure to remove communication and architectural barriers to permit access to Defendant's on-site rental services contained is a separate, independent, actionable violation of this FHA section § 3604(f)(2), even without reference to the ADA as a predicate. Plaintiffs have alleged that Defendants' Property has overt and obvious physical barriers to access its rental services provided at the property. See ¶¶ 25 -26. The 9th

1 Circuit *Smith* court stated that the mere observation of overt architectural barriers is
 2 actionable. *Smith* at 1104 [“To read an additional standing requirement into the
 3 statute beyond mere observation, however, ignores that many overtly discriminatory
 4 conditions, for example, lack of a ramped entryway, prohibit a disabled individual
 5 from forming the requisite intent or actual interest in renting or buying *for the very*
 6 *reason* that architectural barriers prevent them from viewing the whole property in
 7 the first instance” (emphasis in original)]. The *Smith* court found Defendants liable
 8 under this FHA subsection even though that case did not involve ADA Title III
 9 claims. However, Plaintiffs did not just allege that Plaintiff Club observed
 10 Defendant’s overt architectural barriers, but Plaintiffs alleged that a Plaintiff Club
 11 member experienced the barriers, that the named Individual Plaintiff had actual
 12 knowledge of Defendants’ communication and architectural barriers and Plaintiff
 13 Wiggins was deterred from obtaining equal access to Defendant’s rental services
 14 located thereon. Defendants also discriminated against Plaintiffs by failing to
 15 modify its practices and policies to provide access via other methods of access to its
 16 rental services at the property. Defendant’s failure to remove the architectural and
 17 communication barriers to access its rental services and facilities, or to provide an
 18 accommodation to provide methods of alternate access to the facility providing rental
 19 services constitutes the prohibited discrimination, separately and independently.
 20 Additionally, Defendant’s conduct is also prohibited under ADA Title III and
 21 constitutes a second, separate, independent source of discrimination against Plaintiffs
 22 in violation of FHA § 3604(f)(2). Since Defendants discriminatory conduct involves
 23 Defendants’ rental facilities and its rental services, Plaintiffs assert any
 24 discriminatory conduct found in violation of ADA Title III also constitutes
 25 prohibited “discrimination” under FHA § 3604(f)(2).

26 CLAIM IV: Discrimination In Violation of 42 § 3604(f)(3)(A and B only)

27 31. Plaintiffs do not make any claim against Defendants for a failure to “design
 28

1 and construct” pursuant to § 3604(f)(3)(C). Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26
 2 above and elsewhere herein this complaint, Plaintiffs suffered discrimination by
 3 Defendants in violation of FHA sections § 3604(f)(3)(A, B) only. The FHA requires
 4 that “....[f]or the purposes of this subsection, discrimination includes-- (B) a refusal
 5 to make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices, or services, when
 6 such accommodations may be necessary to afford such person equal opportunity to
 7 use and enjoy a dwelling...” 42 § 3604(f)(3)(B). See also *Giebeler v. M & B*
 8 *Associates*, 343 F.3d 1143 (9th Cir 2003). Defendants improperly refused Plaintiffs’
 9 repeated written and other requests for an accommodation to have equal access to its
 10 rental services.

11 CLAIM V: Discrimination In Violation of 42 § 3604(c) As To NSA

12 32. Based on information, belief, and the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 – 26 above and
 13 elsewhere herein, Plaintiffs herein alleges that Defendants caused Plaintiffs to suffer
 14 the injury of discrimination since Defendants violated 42 U.S.C. §§ 3604 (c) with
 15 respect to its notices, statements, and advertisements (“NSA”). Plaintiffs allege that
 16 Defendants discriminated against them when Defendants made, printed, or
 17 published, or caused to be made printed, or published notices, statements, or
 18 advertisements (“NSA”) that suggest to an ordinary reader a preference to attract
 19 tenants without disabilities. Defendants' Internet advertising regarding its rental
 20 services has an unlawful disparate impact on Plaintiffs.
 21

22 SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION : Violation of California Fair Housing Act

23 33. Failure to Provide Obvious Reasonable Accommodation and Modification:
 24 Based on information, belief and the facts stated above at ¶¶ 8 – 26 above and
 25 elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiffs allege that Defendants refused to make
 26 reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices, or services in violation of
 27
 28

1 CA Government Code sections 12927 and 12955.2, when these accommodations
 2 may be necessary to afford a disabled person equal opportunity to use and enjoy
 3 Defendants' rental services. As stated in detail above, Defendants refused to make
 4 reasonable accommodations with the instant Plaintiffs and discriminated against each
 5 of them on the basis of disability.

6
 7 **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS- Claims Under**
 8 **The Americans With Disabilities Act Of 1990**

9 **34. ADA Standing:**

10 ADA Title III does cover public and common use areas at housing
 11 developments when these public areas are, by their nature, open to the general
 12 public. An office providing rental services is open to the general public. (See U.S.
 13 Department of Justice - ADA Title III Technical Assistance Section III-1.2000,
 14 Illustration 3, rental office covered). The parking and paths of travel to the rental
 15 office are also covered. See Section III-1.2000, ADA Title III Technical Assistance
 16 Manual, <http://www.ada.gov/taman3.html> ("ILLUSTRATION 3: A private
 17 residential apartment complex contains a rental office. The rental office is a place of
 18 public accommodation"). See *Kalani v Castle Village, LLC*, 14 F.Supp.3d 1359,
 19 1371 (E.D.Cal, 2014)[citing *Johnson v. Laura Dawn Apartments, LLC*, 2012 WL
 20 33040 at *1 n. 1 (E.D.Cal.2012) (Hollows, M.J.) ("[t]he leasing office of an
 21 apartment is a place of public accommodation.] . In the present case, the named
 22 Plaintiffs have sufficiently alleged that Defendants provide rental services at the
 23 Property. Following prior sister Circuit Courts of Appeals decisions, our Ninth
 24 Circuit Court very recently held that an ADA Plaintiff can be only a "tester" and
 25 have standing. See *Civil Rights Education & Enforcement Center v. Hospitality*
 26 *Properties Trust*, 867 F.3d 1093 (9th Cir. 2017) [the Ninth Circuit *CREEC* court held
 27 (1) ADA "tester" standing is valid and a Plaintiff's motivation for visit is
 28

“irrelevant”, and (2) an ADA “deterrent effect doctrine” claim does not require a Plaintiff to have a personal encounter with the barrier to equal access, only to have knowledge of the barrier] citing *Havens Realty Corp. v. Coleman*, 455 U.S. 363, 372–74, 102 S.Ct. 1114 (1982); *Smith v. Pacific Properties and Development Corp.*, 358 F.3d 1097, 1102-1104 (9th Cir 2004); *Chapman v. Pier 1 Imports (U.S.) Inc.*, 631 F.3d 939 (9th Cir 2011, en banc); *Houston v. Marod Supermarkets, Inc.*, 733 F.3d 1323, 1335–37 (11th Cir. 2013); *Colo. Cross Disability Coal. v. Abercrombie & Fitch Co.*, 765 F.3d 1205, 1210–11 (10th Cir. 2014). In the present case, the named Plaintiffs each have ADA standing. Plaintiffs have alleged that Defendants discriminated against Plaintiffs in violation of ADA Title III statutes and regulations as detailed further in the ADA claims stated below. As a result, the named Plaintiffs have each suffered injury and each seek only injunctive and declaratory relief pursuant to their ADA Claims.

CLAIM I: Auxiliary Aids – Failure To Effectively Communicate

35. 42 United States Code 12182(b)(2)(iii) states, "a failure to take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that no individual with a disability is excluded, denied services, segregated or otherwise treated differently than other individuals because of the absence of auxiliary aids and services, unless the entity can demonstrate that taking such steps would fundamentally alter the nature of the good, service, facility, privilege, advantage, or accommodation being offered or would result in an undue burden;..." Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon allege that Defendants violated said provision. Plaintiffs set forth the factual basis for this claim most specifically at ¶¶ 13 -14, 16-24 above. The ADA “applies to the services of a place of public accommodation, not services *in* a place of public accommodation. To limit the ADA to discrimination in the provision of services occurring on the premises of a

1 public accommodation would contradict the plain language of the statute.” Nat’l
2 Fed’n of the Blind v. Target Corp., 452 F. Supp. 2d 946, 953 (N.D. Cal. 2006)
3 (emphasis added) (citing *Weyer v. Twentieth Century Fox Film Corp.*, 198 F.3d
4 1104, 1115 (9th Cir. 2000) [holding that “whatever goods or services the place
5 provides, it cannot discriminate on the basis of disability in providing enjoyment of
6 those goods and services”]). An ADA plaintiff may challenge a business’ online
7 offerings as well. So long as there is a “nexus”—that is, “some connection between
8 the good or service complained of and an actual physical place”—a plaintiff may
9 challenge the digital offerings of an otherwise physical business. *See Gorecki v.*
10 *Hobby Lobby Stores, Inc.*, 2017 WL 2957736, at *4 (C.D. Cal. June 15, 2017) [Case:
11 CV 17–1131–JFW (SKx)]. The ADA requires the Defendants to provide effective
12 communication to the instant Plaintiffs and to people with disabilities. In the
13 present case, Plaintiffs experienced and have knowledge that Defendants failed to
14 have a required procedure to provide effective communication. Plaintiffs allege that
15 Defendants failed to train their staff on the way to use the auxiliary aids. Defendants
16 did not provide any auxiliary aid and the Defendants did not provide any reasonable
17 accommodation to the overt and obvious communication barriers, and failed to
18 respond to Plaintiffs’ requests for accommodation. Plaintiffs are not demanding that
19 Defendants provide a specific reasonable accommodation or a specific auxiliary aid.
20 ADA law allows the Defendants to decide what auxiliary aid and reasonable
21 accommodation will be provided. In this case, however, Defendants failed to
22 provide any reasonable accommodation for the overt and obvious communication
23 barriers to equal access to their rental services, failed to provide any auxiliary aid,
24 and failed to provide any effective communication. Plaintiffs allege that Defendants’
25 websites provide a contact number for the general public, but Defendants failed to
26 provide Plaintiffs with the required effective communication using texting or other
27
28

1 alternate means of communication for Plaintiffs and other people with a deaf
 2 condition or a speech condition. Defendants' conduct discriminates against Plaintiff
 3 Club's members that have hearing disabilities and Club's members with speech
 4 disabilities. Defendants are required to provide, on Defendants' websites, to provide
 5 a method to effectively communicate with Plaintiff Club members that have hearing
 6 and speech disabilities, and other people that are deaf or have speech impairments.
 7

8
 9 **CLAIM II: Denial of Participation**

10 36. 42 United States Code 12182(b)(1)(A)(i) states, "It shall be discriminatory to
 11 subject an individual or class of individuals on the basis of a disability or disabilities
 12 of such individual or class, directly, or through contractual, licensing, or other
 13 arrangements, to a denial of the opportunity of the individual or class to participate in
 14 or benefit from the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or
 15 accommodations of an entity." Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and
 16 elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon allege that
 17 Defendants violated said provision. Plaintiffs set forth the factual basis for this claim
 18 most specifically at ¶¶ 20-24 above. Defendants discriminated against Plaintiffs in
 19 violation of 42 United States Code 12182(b)(1)(A)(i) and 42 U.S.C. § 12188.

20 **CLAIM III: Participation in Unequal Benefit**

21 37. Defendants provide unequal benefit for people with disabilities in violation of
 22 42 United States Code 12182(b)(1)(A)(ii) and 42 U.S.C. § 12188. Based on the facts
 23 plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiffs are informed,
 24 believe, and thereon allege that Defendants discriminated against Plaintiffs in
 25 violation of said provision. Plaintiffs set forth the factual basis for this claim most
 26 specifically at ¶¶ 20-24 above.

27 ///

1 CLAIM IV: **Separate Benefit**

2 38. Defendants' photographs discriminate against Plaintiffs in violation of 42
3 United States Code 12182(b)(2)(A)(iii) and 42 U.S.C. § 12188. Based on the facts
4 plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiffs are informed,
5 believe, and thereon allege that Defendants discriminated against Plaintiffs in
6 violation of said provision. Plaintiffs set forth the factual basis for this claim most
7 specifically at ¶¶ 20-24 above.

8 CLAIM V: **Integrated Settings**

9 39. Defendants' rental services are not integrated for Plaintiffs and people with
10 disabilities in violation of 42 United States Code 12182(b)(1)(B) and 42 U.S.C. §
11 12188. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint,
12 Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon allege that Defendants discriminated
13 against Plaintiffs in violation of said provision. Plaintiffs set forth the factual basis
14 for this claim most specifically at ¶¶ 20-24 above.

15 CLAIM VI: **Failure To Modify Practices, Policies And Procedures**

16 40. Defendants failed and refused to provide a reasonable alternative by
17 modifying its practices, policies, and procedures in that they failed to have a scheme,
18 plan, or design to accommodate Plaintiff Club, its Club members, the individual
19 named Plaintiff, and/or others similarly situated in utilizing Defendants' rental
20 services, at its websites and its rental services at the Property, in violation of 42
21 United States Code 12182(b)(2)(A)(ii) and 42 U.S.C. § 12188. Based on the facts
22 plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiffs are informed,
23 believe, and thereon allege that Defendants discriminated against Plaintiffs in
24 violation of said provision. Plaintiffs set forth the factual basis for this claim most
25 specifically at ¶¶ 18-26 above.

26 ///

1 CLAIM VII: **Failure To Remove Architectural And Communication Barriers**

2 41. Plaintiffs allege that Defendants failed to remove architectural barrier and
 3 communication barriers as required in violation of 42 United States Code
 4 12182(b)(2)(A)(iv) and 42 U.S.C. § 12182. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26
 5 above and elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon
 6 allege that Defendants discriminated against the named Individual Plaintiff in
 7 violation of said provision. Plaintiffs set forth the factual basis for this claim most
 8 specifically at ¶¶ 8,9,20-24,25,26 above. The named Individual Plaintiff personally
 9 reviewed all the information and photographs of Defendants' property. As a result,
 10 the named Individual Plaintiff has actual knowledge of the physical and
 11 communication barriers that exist at Defendants' Property. The named Individual
 12 Plaintiff determined that the physical barriers that exist at Defendants' property,
 13 directly relate to his disabilities, and make it impossible or extremely difficult for
 14 him to physically access Defendants' on-site rental services at the Property. The
 15 named Individual Plaintiff was deterred by his actual knowledge of the physical and
 16 communication barriers that exist at Defendants' Property which include, but are not
 17 limited to, the barriers to facilities for disabled parking, paths of travel to the rental
 18 services, since said Defendants' facilities were not accessible because they failed to
 19 comply with the Federal ADA Accessibility Guidelines ("ADAAG") and California's
 20 Title 24 Building Code Requirements. See ¶¶ 25 for details. The named Individual
 21 Plaintiff had actual knowledge of these barriers and determined that it would be
 22 futile gesture for him to go to the Property on the date that he had originally
 23 intended. The named Individual Plaintiff is currently deterred from returning due to
 24 his knowledge of the barriers. At the end of this action, the named Individual
 25 Plaintiff intends to return to Defendants' property and websites to obtain rental
 26 information and verify that the communication and physical barriers to Defendants'
 27 rental services are removed. Defendants failure to remove the barriers to equal
 28

1 access constitutes discrimination against the named Individual Plaintiff.

2 CLAIM VIII: **Failure To Make Alterations Readily Accessible And Usable**

3 42. Defendants are required to make alterations to their facilities in such a manner
4 that, to the maximum extent feasible, the altered portions of the facility are readily
5 accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities, including individuals who
6 use wheelchairs pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §12183(a)(2). Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8
7 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint, the named Plaintiffs are informed,
8 believe, and thereon allege that Defendants violated this provision. Plaintiffs allege
9 that Defendants altered their facility in a manner that affects or could affect the
10 usability of the facility or a part of the facility after January 26, 1992. In performing
11 the alteration, Plaintiffs allege that Defendants failed to make the alteration in such a
12 manner that, to the maximum extent feasible, the altered portions of the facility are
13 readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities, including individuals
14 who use wheelchairs, in violation of 42 U.S.C. §12183(a)(2).

15 CLAIM IX: **Administrative Methods**

16 43. Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon allege that Defendants contract
17 with website providers without making sure that the websites will be accessible to
18 people with disabilities in violation of 42 United States Code 12182(b)(1)(B) and 42
19 U.S.C. § 12188. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this
20 complaint, Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon allege that Defendants
21 discriminated against the named Individual Plaintiff in violation of said provision.
22 Plaintiffs set forth the factual basis for this claim most specifically at ¶¶18-26 above.

23 CLAIM X: **Screen Out**

24 44. Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon allege that Defendants screened
25 out Plaintiffs and other people with disabilities in violation of 42 United States Code
26 12182(b)(2)(A)(i) and 42 U.S.C. § 12188. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26
27
28

1 above and elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon
 2 allege that Defendants discriminated against the named Plaintiffs in violation of said
 3 provision. Plaintiffs set forth the factual basis for this claim most specifically at ¶¶ 8
 4 - 26 above. Defendants screened out the named Plaintiffs from its rental services and
 5 processes, because Defendants failed to remove architectural and communication
 6 barriers to its website and property where rental services are provided, failed to
 7 provide required effective alternate communication methods, and failed to provide
 8 required auxiliary aids.

9 **CLAIM XI: Denial Of Full And Equal Access**

10 45. Defendants are required to provide full and equal access to Defendants' rental
 11 services, goods, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations pursuant to 42
 12 United States Code 12182(b) and 42 U.S.C. § 12188. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶
 13 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and
 14 thereon allege that Defendants discriminated against the named Plaintiffs in violation
 15 of said provision. Plaintiffs set forth the factual basis for this claim most specifically
 16 at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above.

17
 18 **CLAIM XII: Failure To Investigate And Maintain Accessible Features**

19 46. Defendants made repairs and administrative changes which violated ADA and
 20 its regulations. See ADA Title III Regulations Sec.36.211 Maintenance of accessible
 21 features. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint,
 22 Defendants failed to provide and then maintain any accessible features in its parking,
 23 path of travel, property rental services and website rental services. Plaintiffs are
 24 informed, believe, and thereon allege that Defendants discriminated against the
 25 named Plaintiffs in violation of this provision.

26
 27 ///

1 CLAIM XIII: **Association**

2
3 47. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint,
4 Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon allege that Defendants discriminated
5 against the named Plaintiffs in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 12182(b)(1)(E)

6 **DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES IN PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

7 FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION: ONLY THE INDIVIDUALL NAMED
8 PLAINTIFF AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS - **CLAIMS UNDER CALIFORNIA**
9 **ACCESSIBILITY LAWS**

10 CLAIM I: **Denial Of Full And Equal Access**

11 48. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint, the
12 named Individual Plaintiff was denied full and equal access to Defendants' goods.
13 services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations within a public
14 accommodation owned, leased, and/or operated by Defendants as required by Civil
15 Code Sections 54, 54.1, and specifically 54.1(d). The factual basis for this claim is at
16 18-28 above.

17 CLAIM II: **Failure To Modify Practices, Policies And Procedures**

18 49. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint,
19 the named Individual Plaintiff was denied full and equal access to Defendants' goods.
20 Defendants failed and refused to provide a reasonable alternative by modifying its
21 practices, policies, and procedures in that they failed to have a scheme, plan, or
22 design to assist Plaintiff Members and/or others similarly situated in entering and
23 utilizing Defendants' services as required by Civil Code § 54.1. The factual basis for
24 this claim is at 18-28 above.

25 CLAIM III: **Violation Of The Unruh Act**

26 50. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint,
27 the individual, the named Individual Plaintiff was denied full and equal access to
28

Defendants' goods. Defendants violated the CA Civil Code § 51 by specifically failing to comply with Civil Code §51(f). Defendants' facility violated state disability laws, the ANSI Standards, A117, and California's Title 24 Accessible Building Code by failing to provide equal access to Defendants' facilities. Defendants did and continue to discriminate against Plaintiff Members in violation of Civil Code §§ 51(f), and 52. The factual basis for this claim is at 18-28 above.

Treble Damages Pursuant To California Accessibility Laws

51. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint, only the named Individual Plaintiff prays for an award of treble damages against Defendants, and each of them, pursuant to California Civil Code sections 52(a) and 54.3(a). Defendants, each of them respectively, at times prior to and including the day the named Individual Plaintiff attempted patronized Defendants' facilities and rental services, and continuing to the present time, knew that persons with physical disabilities were denied their rights of equal access. Despite such knowledge, Defendants, and each of them, failed and refused to take steps to comply with the applicable access statutes; and despite knowledge of the resulting problems and denial of civil rights thereby suffered by the named Individual Plaintiff. Defendants, and each of them, have failed and refused to take action to grant full and equal access to the individual Plaintiff in the respects complained of hereinabove. Defendants, and each of them, have carried out a course of conduct of refusing to respond to, or correct complaints about, denial of disabled access and have refused to comply with their legal obligations to make Defendants' public accommodation facilities and rental services accessible pursuant to the ADAAG and Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations (also known as the California Building Code). Such actions and continuing course of conduct by Defendants in conscious disregard of the rights and/or safety of the named Individual Plaintiff justify an award of treble damages pursuant to sections 52(a) and 54.3(a) of the California Civil Code.

DEMAND FOR JUDGMENT FOR RELIEF:

A. All named Plaintiffs seeks injunctive relief pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 3613(c) and 42 U.S.C. § 12188(a). Only the named Individual Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief pursuant to CA Civil Code §52. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 3613(c), all Plaintiffs request this court to enjoin Defendants to cease their discriminatory practices in housing rental services, rental housing management services, and for Defendants to implement written policies and methods to respond to reasonable accommodation and reasonable modification requests. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 12188(a), Plaintiffs request this Court enjoin Defendants to remove all barriers to equal access to the disabled Plaintiffs in, at, or on their facilities, including but not limited to architectural and communicative barriers in the provision of Defendants' rental services. Plaintiffs do not seek injunctive relief pursuant to Cal. Civil Code §55 and Plaintiffs do not seek attorneys' fees pursuant to Cal. Civil Code §55. Plaintiffs do not seek any relief at all pursuant to Cal. Civil Code §55.

B. All named Plaintiffs seek actual damages pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 3613(c). However, Plaintiff Club only seeks damages for itself. Plaintiff Club does not seek damages on behalf of its members;

C. Only the named Individual Plaintiff seeks recovery of actual damages pursuant to Cal. Civil Code §§ 52 or 54.3;

D. Only the named Individual Plaintiff seeks \$4,000 in minimum statutory damages pursuant to Cal. Civil Code § 52 for each and every offense of Civil Code § 51, pursuant to Munson v. Del Taco, (June 2009) *46 Cal. 4th 661*;

E. In the alternative to the damages pursuant to Cal. Civil Code § 52 in Paragraph C above, only the named individual Plaintiff seeks \$1,000 in minimum statutory damages pursuant to Cal. Civil Code § 54.3 for each and every offense of Civil Code § 54.1;

F. All named Plaintiffs seek attorneys' fees pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 3613(c)(2), 42

1 U.S.C. § 12205, and Cal. Civil Code §§ 52, 54.3;

2 G. Only the named individual Plaintiff seeks treble damages pursuant to Cal.
3 Civil Code §§ 52(a) or 54.3(a);

4 H. The named Plaintiffs are seeking perspective injunctive relief to require the
5 Defendants to provide obvious reasonable accommodations, to provide the required
6 auxiliary aids and to modify Defendants' procedures, practices, and policies of the
7 Defendants in the provision of Defendants' rental services. Without perspective
8 relief the Plaintiffs will suffer future harm.

9 I. All named Plaintiffs seek a Jury Trial and;

10 J. For such other further relief as the court deems proper.

11
12 Respectfully submitted:

13 LIGHTNING LAW, APC

14 Dated: February 23, 2023

15 By: /s/David C. Wakefield
16 DAVID C. WAKEFIELD, ESQ.
17 Attorney for Plaintiffs
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28